



**Department of Workforce Services
Utah Office of Child Care
Advisory Committee Meeting
140 E 300 S - Salt Lake City
10:00 a.m. to Noon
Room 211 A & B
February 12, 2003**

AGENDA

Presiding: Elyce Mouskondis, Chair
Time

Agenda Item

Parliamentarian: Peter Corroon
Presenter

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|--|---|
| 10:00 a.m. – 10:05 a.m. | 1. | Welcome..... | Elyce Mouskondis |
| 10:05 a.m. – 10:10 a.m. | 2. | Approval of past minutes..... (ACTION ITEM) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• January Full Advisory Minutes• January Data & Research Minutes• January Public Awareness and Planning & Development sub-committees did not meet• January Executive Meeting was Canceled | Elyce Mouskondis |
| 10:10 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. | 3. | Sub-Committee Reports: Data and Research Public Awareness and Marketing..... Planning and Development | Iona Thraen Peter Corroon Connie Saccomanno |
| 10:40 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | 4. | Director's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual Report 2002• Subsidy Report – job search / child care• Welcome Jennifer Young to OCC• President Bush Budget / Reauthorization TANF, CCDF• Other Items of Interest | Lynette Rasmussen |
| 11:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. | 5. | Provider Help Line Update..... | Natalie Brush |
| 11:10 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. | 6. | “Blue Flu” Letter..... | Deb Wynkoop |
| 11:15 a.m. – 11:20 a.m. | 7. | Senate Bill 11 update..... | Sarah Brenna |
| 11:20 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. | 8. | NACCRRAware Presentation..... | Lisa Alleman/Metro CCRR |
| 11:50 a.m. – 11:55 a.m. | 9. | Old & New Business, Chair Comments..... | Elyce Mouskondis |
| 11:55 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | 10. | Public Comment | |

ADJOURN

February 12, 2003

Utah Office of Child Care

Advisory Committee

(* denotes Committee member)

Attending:

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| *Jay Butler | Sheila Lewis | Carol Holcombe | Ann Stockham |
| Patrice Spiegel | Karen Silver | Bobbie Ikagami | *Judie Erickson |
| Laura Oscarson-Wilde | Darin Bush | Debra Wynkoop | Bob Seltzer |
| Chris Bray | Caroline Kueneman | Amy Hatten | Jessica Strout |
| Lisa Alleman | Colleen Fitzgerald | *Holley Mattson | Heather Merrill |
| Johnny Anderson | Amie Huffman | Jennifer Young | Kathy Carr |
| Charity Williams | *Peter Corroon | *Elyce Mouskondis | *Lynette Rasmussen |
| *Annabel Shienberg | Teresa Whiting | Robin Nielson | Christi Christian |

Excused:

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------|
| *Roz McGee | *Mark Stimpson | *Iona Thraen | *Karma Arnold |
| *Tina Jensen | *Connie Saccomanno | | |

ITEM 1 – Welcome – Elyce Mouskondis

ITEM 2 – Review January Minutes : Full Advisory & Data and Research

Item carried to March.

ITEM 3 – Sub-Committee Reports - Chairs

Data & Research – Patrice Spiegel

The D&R subcommittee continues to study and identify areas of need. The committee wants to ensure that funds are targeted to areas in most need. It was suggested that we look at modeling our grants after a DCFS format, which has a mechanism to target communities in need. It was also suggested to use smaller amounts of start-up money this year to target specified areas.

Marketing & Public Awareness – Peter Corroon

The sub committee discussed:

The Office of Child Care 2002 Annual Report and who should be targeted for mailing.

A “Legislative Day in the Day Care World”. (Honor the legislators, appreciation day.) Let Peter know of any ideas for visits. OCC newsletters. Peter will write something up for legislative tours. Lynette thought to include the tours at the same time as the Towne Meetings in April to present the state plan.

petercorroon@hotmail.com

VanGuard Media: Proposals from channels 4 and 5 will be reviewed shortly. The program is a little behind schedule having waited for the proposals, but it is expected that it will be back on target soon.

Planning & Development – Caroline Kueneman

A final committee met to work on suggestions for the Youth Prevention Funds. They reviewed previous meetings and suggested new things. The subcommittee will present to the Executive Committee in February and the full committee in March.

ITEM 4 – Director’s Report – Lynette Rasmussen

Lynette introduced Jennifer Young, the newest member of the Office of Child Care. Jennifer will be taking Natalie’s place on the Provider Helpline.

Annual Report-

Lynette gave a special thanks to Patrice Spiegel and Winston Inoway who helped write, edit, compile, and design the report. Lynette has received comments complimenting the office in their choice of diverse photographs throughout the report. There is great information contained in the report to help support advocacy issues and grant writing requests. There was a small press release last week, but it was decided to not hold a press conference because of sensitive issues related to the poor economy this year.

Assisted Child Care for Job Search-

There was a request to study the issue of child care for job search. OCC thinks that it is a great idea to research and support subsidized child care while parents look for employment. However, OCC has too many obligations right now to take on this project and cannot follow through in completing it by July 2003. OCC will put it on the agenda for future study.

President Bush Budget / Reauthorization TANF, CCDF-

President Bush has proposed level funding for TANF, reduction in 21st century money, and an increase in Head Start and moving Head Start into the Dept of Education. President Bush also wants more funding for food and nutrition programs.

If congress passes increased work requirements, the child care cost would increase 9.5 million dollars in addition to the money we are dipping into from TANF. We don’t have the money to do that.

ITEM 5 – Provider Helpline Update – Natalie Brush

Natalie reported that calls to the Provider Helpline have doubled since the helpline began. In the last two months the average has gone from 250 calls to 500 calls a month.

The policy changes related to the Child Care Audit have slowed down the process of approving parents even more. OCC wants it shown that these changes not only affect parents, but the providers as well. Providers are calling the helpline with multiple cases asking if the parents have been approved. If any providers have suggestions for Natalie on how to improve the helpline or what providers need, then please contact Natalie or Jennifer.

Johnny Anderson asked if email would be faster than phone calls. If a provider has multiple cases that need to be looked up, emailing would be quicker. Providers who call the helpline are very positive and understand if they can’t get through right away. Most are just appreciative that the helpline exists.

When does OCC predict that the effects of the audit will calm down?

EC Workers are very paranoid about authorizing benefits and feel restricted. Cases are taking two weeks longer than usual to be authorized. As training strengthens and workers get accustomed to new policy, the time frames for approving cases should get back on track.

What were the policy changes?

Age verification and citizenship verification were two main concerns of the auditors. In the past DWS just required self-declaration. Now the auditors require documentation. Another issue cited by the auditors was verification of past need. Workers are not documenting going back and verifying best estimates and issuing overpayments if the customer’s pay stubs don’t reflect the best estimate.

It was recommended that information regarding the policy changes and why payments are being delayed be put in the CCR&R Newsletter to make providers aware of the situation. Providers may be able to help by reminding parents to keep their pay stubs so that benefits will not be delayed in the future.

ITEM 6- “Blue Flu” Letter – Deb Wynkoop

Deb Wynkoop explained to the Committee that an anonymous letter was sent in January asking child care providers to make false complaints to the Department of Health to prove there is fault in the child care licensing procedures. There have been 3 letters total sent out.

The concerns the letter stems from are too many licensors visiting child care centers and that informant information is kept confidential.

Deb explained that complaints are put into three categories: without merit, unable to substantiate, and substantiated. Parents who have their children in care at the program wish to remain confidential, they don't want to remove their child from the program, they just want the program improved. If a complaint is to be followed through, a parent cannot remain anonymous.

Elyce asked for a motion that the Advisory Committee support licensing in this issue. Licensing is a very important part of providing quality child care in this state. The Advisory Committee appreciates the committee that licensing has in place to listen to issues and address concerns of providers and OCC and the Advisory Committee supports that mechanism.

MOTION: Annabel Shienberg.

SECOND: Peter Corroon.

MOTION CARRIED.

Johnny spoke for motion: OCC needs to support licensing and providers who choose to be licensed. Johnny expressed his belief that OCC should require providers to become licensed. Elyce responded that that is a separate issue and is not a part of this motion.

We want to make sure child care stays in a positive eye for the state representatives and legislature. There is a need to portray child care as a safe and positive setting. Legislatures are listening now and we want them to continue to see child care as positive.

ITEM 7- Senate Bill 11 Update- Sarah Brenna

Sarah told the Advisory Committee that the Senate Bill 11 passed and will become effective 60 days after March 5, 2003.

Elyce would like the Advisory Committee to send thank you notes to representatives Evans & Allen to say thanks for their support of this bill.

ITEM 8- Nacraaware Presentation – Lisa Alleman (Metro CCR&R)

Lisa demonstrated the Nacraaware software by doing a provider search and setting up a parent profile. She distributed parent packets that are given to all parents out of the Metro Office.

There was general discussion regarding concerns and questions during the presentation.

Demographic information from the providers is listed in the referral data base. License status is verified, but other data from providers (association affiliation) is not. The status of providers having substantiated complaints would be flagged in the system so that the system will not bring up the “flagged” provider as a referral to parents.

NACCRRAware lists by center, family and family group. It documents provider education levels, Career Ladder and Provider Achievement participation, etc. For further information please call the CCRR with your questions.

Elyce: OCC calendar now goes with fiscal year of DWS. OCC is supporting the Professional Development Child Care Conference May 30 and 31. The retreat for Advisory Committee will be held in June as the monthly meeting.

ITEM 9- Old and New Business – Elyce Mouskondis

Permanent name plates will be ordered for voting members. Paper name plates will be created for consistent attendees who do not vote.

NSACA Conference being held in Salt Lake City, February 27 through March 1 at the Little America and Grand America hotels. Day one will emphasize leadership in quality school age care. The scheduled keynote speaker is Bill Michaels who will speak on the value of play and teaching kids through play. 15 site visits to school age programs are planned. For additional information logon to www.nsaca.org

Congratulations and welcome to Bobbie Ikagami, the new NASACA president.

ITEM 10 – Public Comment

Provider retreat April 10 & 11 in St George. Expect 40 to 50 people at Dixie College. Contact Johnny Anderson at janderso@mail.aros.net

Yearly Institutional Conference being held at Weber College – March 1.

Johnny / National Child Care Association survey results: It costs child care providers nationwide over \$1 billion yearly to process subsidy clients. There is also risk in taking on a subsidy client. There is a greater chance of non-payment. It is much more expensive, time consuming, and there is a greater risk.

The Children's Campaign is going to have another March Forward For Child Care. Annabel will email info to all interested people.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Peter Corroon

SECOND: Judie Erickson

ADJOURNED